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Message Text

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45
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 PA-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 A-01 SS-15 NEAE-00 /038 W
---------- 098170
O R 281400Z JUL 75
FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7215
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L JERUSALEM 1199

E.O. 11/*2: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, IS, XF, SCUL
SUBJ: PALEY MUSEUM IN EAST JERUSALEM

REF: A. STATE 173201; B. TEL AVIV 4819; C. JERUSALEM 1180

1. REFS A AND B NOT RECEIVED JERUSALEM PRIOR OPENING OF BUSINESS

JULY 28. CONGEN HAS BEEN TOUCH WITH ISRAEL MUSEUM AND MAYOR'S OFFICE AND IT APPEARS THAT DATE FOR GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY AND LEVEL OF GOI REPRESENTATION NOT YET FIXED. AS FAR AS BOTH OFFICES ARE CONCERNED, THERE IS DEFINITELY NO REPEAT NO CEREMONY SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 1.

2. AS SEEN FROM HERE, INVITATION POSES TICKLISH PROBLEM. THIS IS SIGNIFICANT CULTURAL EVENT FINANCED BY AN EMINENT AMERICAN AT WHICH AN OFFICIAL AMERICAN SHOULD LOGICALLY BE PRESENT. HOWEVER, DECISION SHOULD BE ON BASIS OF WEST BANK STRENGTH AND ARAB REACTION TO OFFICIAL USG REPRESENTATION AT A GOI CEREMONY COMMEMORATING EXPANSION OF ISRAEL MUSEUM BRANCH IN EAST JERUSALEM.IN THIS REGARD, CONGEN HAS REPORTED CONTINUING COMPLAINTS OF WEST BANK LEADERS CONCERNING CONTINUED ISRAELI CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT BOTH IN EAST JERUSALEM AND ELSEWHERE IN WEST BANK AREA. IF DEPARTMENT WISHES NO POSSIBILITY OF MISUNDERSTANDING,CONGEN SHOULD NOT BE PRESENT.

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3. ON OTHER HAND, IT MAY BE THAT MAYOR KOLLEK WILL SEEK TO

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MITIGATE REACTIONS WHICH WOULD BE SHARPER IF CEREMONY CONSISTS OF CONERSTONE LAYING OR GROUNDBREAKING AT ROCKEFELLER MUSEUM IN EAST JERUSALEM. IN EVENT CEREMONY WERE TO TAKE PLACE AT ISRAEL MUSEUM IN WEST JERUSALEM AND IN EVENT MAYOR WERE IN FACT TO BE HIGHEST-RANKING GOI OFFICIAL PRESENT, THEN DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO AUTHORIZE AN EXCEPTION TO OUR WELL-UNDERSTOOD POLICY OF CONGEN NOT ATTENDING ISRAELI FUNCTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH ISRAELI PROJECTS IN EAST JERUSALEM. I AM PAYING COURTESY CALL ON MAYOR KOLLEK AT 12 NOON JULY 29, AT WHICH TIME HE MAY SHED SOME LIGHT ON POSSIBILITY ALLLUDED TO IN PARA 2 TEL AVIV 4819.
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